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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/912,435	07/24/2001	Andrea Cigada	854063.654	4844

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EXAMINER

VAN, QUANG T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3742

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2003

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/912,435

Applicant(s)

CIGADA ET AL.

Examiner

Quang T Van

Art Unit

3742

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

2. The subject matter of this application admits of illustration by a drawing to facilitate understanding of the invention. Applicant is required to furnish a drawing under 37 CFR 1.81. No new matter may be introduced in the required drawing.

Specification

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the legal phraseology such as "comprising" often used in patent claims should be avoided in the abstract. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 10, "said ink marking process" recited in lines 1-2 lacks antecedent basis from the claim and preceding claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Arita et al (US 6,418,941). Arita discloses a method and apparatus for plasma cleaning of chip-mounted board comprising introducing said integrated circuit (1) inside a plasma chamber (9); and exposing said integrated circuit (1) to a plasma, said plasma being a physical plasma (col. 1, lines 66-67, col. 2, lines 1-5).
8. Claims 1-2, 5 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chang et al (US 5,043,299). Chang discloses a process for selective deposition of tungsten on a masked semiconductor wafer comprising the step of introducing said integrated circuit (100) inside a plasma chamber (10); and exposing said integrated circuit (100) to a plasma, said plasma being a physical plasma (col. 3, lines 49-54).
9. Claims 1-2, 7, 9, 11, 13-14, 16-17 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Linn et al (US 5,882,423) cited by applicant. Linn discloses a plasma cleaning method comprising the step of introducing said integrated circuit (11) inside a plasma chamber (21); and exposing said integrated circuit (11) to plasma, said plasma being a physical plasma (col. 4, lines 22-37).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 10 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Linn et al (US 5,882,423) cited by applicant in view of Mitra et al (US 6,232,153). Linn discloses substantially all features of the claimed invention except said ink marking process being carried out using a laser ink marking technique. Mitra discloses an ink marking process being carried out using a laser ink marking technique (abstract, lines 5-9). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize in Linn an ink marking process being carried out using a laser ink marking technique as taught by Mitra in order minimize degradation of electrical performance and improving yields and reliability.

12. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Linn et al (US 5,882,423) cited by applicant in view of Arita et al (US 6,418,941). Linn discloses substantially all features of the claimed invention except the package is composed of an epoxy resin material. Arita discloses a package is composed of an epoxy resin material (col. 1, lines 54-55). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize in Linn a package is composed of an epoxy resin material as taught by Arita in order to bond layers of IC package together.

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang T Van whose telephone number is 703-306-9162. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00Am 7:00Pm M-Th.

Art Unit: 3742

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sang Paik can be reached on 703-308-1147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0861.



QV
September 16, 2003



Quang T Van
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3742